



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Press Release

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Idaho July Red Meat Production Up 27 Percent from Last Year

Commercial red meat production at Idaho packing plants for July 2008 totaled 20.3 million pounds, up 27 percent from July of last year, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. July production was unchanged from June 2008 production. Accumulated red meat production for the January-July 2008 period totaled 131.5 million pounds, up 43 percent from the comparable period a year earlier.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.25 billion pounds in July, up 8 percent from the 3.94 billion pounds produced in July 2007. Beef production, at 2.37 billion pounds, was 5 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.06 million head, up 6 percent from July 2007. The average live weight was up 4 pounds from the previous year, at 1,273 pounds. Veal production totaled 12.3 million pounds, 16 percent above July a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 87,900 head, up 41 percent from July 2007. The average live weight was down 46 pounds from last year, at 243 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.85 billion pounds, up 12 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.47 million head, up 13 percent from July 2007. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year, at 262 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 13.7 million pounds, was up 1 percent from July 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 207,800 head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 132 pounds, up 1 pound from July a year ago. January to July 2008 commercial red meat production was 29.3 billion pounds, up 6 percent from 2007. Accumulated beef production was up 3 percent from last year, veal was down 6 percent, pork was up 11 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

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